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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 04742 011446Z

46
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 NIC-01 EB-11 OMB-01 DRC-01

/121 W
---------- 096658
R 011315Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7496
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4742

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR EG IZ
SUBJECT: SAYYID MAR'I TO VISIT IRAQ

1. CAIRO WEEKLY ROSE AL-YUSUF REPORTS JULY 1 THAT SAYYID MAR'I PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT AND INTIMATE FRIEND OF SADAT, WILLVISIT IRAQ "SHORTLY" TO MEET WITH SADDAM. "TRIP IS IN CONTEXT OF THE CONTACTS WHICH ARE GOING ON BETWEEN CAIRO AND BAGHDAD TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS ACCORDING TO CAIRO'S PLAN TO MOBILIZE ALLFORCES OF ARAB SOLIDARITY." ROSE AL-YUSUF ALSO "LEARNED" BOUMEDIENNE HAS DISCUSSED CAIRO-BAGHDAD RELATIONS WITH SADDAM, WHO IS NOW IN ALGIERS.

2. MAR'I, WHO IS VERY CLOSE TO PRESIDENT SADAT, AND REPORTEDLY TURNED DOWN PRIME MINISTERSHIP OF NEW CABINET, HAS NOT MADE TOUR OF "EXPLANATION" ON BEHALF GOE SINCE JANUARY, BUT HAS DEVOTED HIMSELF TO HIS WORK AT WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. SENIOR EGYPTIAN JOURNALIST WITH GOOD IRAQI CONTACTS TOLD US RECENTLY THAT IRAQI FEELINGS WERE WOUNDED WHEN MAR'I DID NOT INCLUDE BAGHDAD ON HIS ITINERARY IN HIS
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NOV., DEC., AND JAN. TOURS TO SAUDI ARABIA AND GULF CAPITALS.

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AMERICAN JOURNALIST HERE TELLS US THAT GOE AMBASSADOR TO BAGHDAD
TOLD HIM TWO MONTHS AGO THAT SADAT HAS MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO
AMBASSADOR THAT HIS SOLE MISSION IS TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS.
IF MAR'I DOES, IN FACT, GO TO BAGHDAD, TRIP ITSELF WOULD BE FIRST
TANGIBLE EVIDENCE SINCE OCTOBER WAR THAT GOE IS READY TO PATCH
UP OLD MISUNDERSTANDINGS.
EILTS

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